

February 24, 2009

Geoffrey Gosselin Legislative Director Rep. Frank LoBiondo

Dear Mr. Gosselin,

The Town of Hammonton is requesting a Fiscal Year 2010 Federal Appropriation in the amount of \$650,000 for the "Rehabilitation of Blighted Buildings as part of Ongoing Downtown Revitalization". I have attached the budget for the project, along with copies of the appropriation request forms that were submitted online to Senator Menendez and Senator Lautenberg.

The goal of this project is to acquire, renovate and adaptively reuse several blighted former industrial sites that exist within the Downtown Urban Core of Hammonton. This project will make the region a magnet for business development, higher education, arts and culture. In addition, it will become a destination for "green technology" corporations looking for sites with access to public transportation in a downtown environment to headquarter their companies. Retail and restaurant owners seeking a centralized location to start their new ventures will benefit by this project as well. New tourism opportunities will also be created for the region.

Any assistance you can provide us in securing these funds for this worthy project is greatly appreciated. Please contact me at 609-457-7169 if you require any additional information as the appropriations process moves forward.

Sincerely,

John J. DiDonato, Mayor Town of Hammonton